

GARSTANG
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1961



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PRESTON
HERALD

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR R. ROSSALL, J.P.

Public Health Committee:

THE WHOLE OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. PRESTON

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR D. H. JONES

Clerk of the Council:

H. BOND, A.C.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time):

ANDREW B. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch B.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

A. SMITHSON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

F. C. WESTON, C.R. .H.I., M.A.P.H.I.

J. H. COOKSON, C.R.S.H, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:

MISS S. HAMPSON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Garstang Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my twenty-first Annual Report for the year 1961, together with the vital statistics relating thereto.

The population of the district has increased during the past year and the general health in the rural area remained satisfactory.

The statistics showed little change in the number of births from the previous year, but there was a slight increase in the number of deaths. Again a high percentage of these were in the upper age group. The number of deaths from cancer was 32 as against the figure of 35 for 1960. There was an increase in the number of deaths from heart disease.

There was a fairly widespread outbreak of measles in the district, but apart from this, only ten cases of infectious diseases were notified.

There has been a reasonable response to the immunisation schemes available in the area, and a considerable number of children attended their own general practitioner for this purpose.

An outbreak of food poisoning occurred during the late summer amongst members of three coach parties after visiting one of the local cafes. The causative organism was Staph. Aureus (G.3) and the affected food was steamed chicken.

The bungalows erected for elderly people in Garstang in 1959 have proved a real asset and it is suggested that consideration might be given to the possibility of erecting similar bungalows in other villages in the district.

During the year the Nether Wyresdale water scheme for approximately 50 houses and farms was completed at an estimated cost of £20,000.

Progress continued on the joint sewerage scheme with the Preston Rural District Council for the Bilsborrow, Myerscough, Barton, etc. areas, although no sewers were actually laid in this district. Schemes have also been proposed by the Council for parts of the parishes of Hambleton, Stalmine, Pilling and Forton and for the replacement of the Disposal Works at Scorton.

I would like to express my thanks to the Chief Public Health Inspector and the staff of the Health Department, and also to the Clerk of the Council, for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

I remain, Yours faithfully,
ANDREW B. TAYLOR,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Position ..	Latitude 53° 54" North. Longitude 2° 47" West.
Elevation above sea level ..	0 feet to 1,675 feet.
Geological formation ..	Eastern Highlands—Millstone grit. Western Lowlands—Glacial clay on triassic sandstone with patches of alluvium.
Chief Industries carried on in the area ..	Mainly Agriculture and Poultry; Egg Packing and Poultry Dressing; Milk processing and Cheese Making; Textile Manufacturing; Paper Making and Pre-Cast Products. Several men are employed in the building trades, and a number of residents are employed in the neighbouring towns.
Area (Acres)	57,491
Population Census 1961	14,379
Registrar-General's Estimated mid-year Home Population, 1961 ..	14,320
Density of population per acre .. .. .	.25
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1961 according to Rate Books	4,463
Average number of persons per house	3.2
Rateable Value	£164,947
Sum represented by a penny rate	£674

VITAL STATISTICS

			<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Live	Legitimate		242	130	112
Births	Illegitimate		7	2	5
			<hr/> 249	<hr/> 132	<hr/> 117
Still Births (Legitimate)			4	3	1
Deaths			203	104	99

Infant Deaths

			<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Under 1 Week (Legitimate) ..			7	5	2
	(Illegitimate) ..		2	2	—
Under 4 Weeks (Legitimate) ..			8	6	2
	(Illegitimate) ..		2	2	—
Under 1 Year (Legitimate) ..			8	6	2
	(Illegitimate) ..		2	2	—

COMPARATIVE RATES

	1960	1961	England & Wales
Live Births:			
Number	243	249	804,120
Rate per 1,000 population (Crude 17.4)	19.0*	17.9*	17.4
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births	3.7	2.41	—
Stillbirths:			
Number	4	4	15,343
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	16.2	15.8	18.7
Total Live and Still Births	247	253	819,463
Deaths:			
Number	191	203	551,783
Rate per 1,000 population (Crude 14.2)	14.1*	15.4*	12.0
Infant Deaths (under one year)	8	10	17,211
Infant Mortality Rates:			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	32.9	40.2	21.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	34.2	33.1	—
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	285.7	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ...	28.8	40.2	15.5
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	20.6	36.1	13.4
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) ...	36.4	51.4	32.2
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):			
Number of Deaths	0	0	274
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	—	—	0.33
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0	0	0.065
Cancer	2.53	2.23	2.16

* Adjusted) live birth rate (comparability factor 1.03) = 17.9 per 1,000
1961) death rate (comparability factor 1.09) = 15.4 per 1,000

Causes of Death

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, non-respiratory	1	0	1
Other infective or parasitic diseases	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2	6
" " lung, bronchus	7	1	8
" " breast	0	4	4
" " uterus	0	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	7	13
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	2	1	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	14	26
Coronary disease, angina... ..	25	16	41
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart diseases	11	28	39
Other circulatory diseases	4	7	11
Influenza	0	2	2
Pneumonia	1	0	1
Bronchitis	6	0	6
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	0	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	0	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	0	1
Nephritis, Nephrosis	1	0	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1
Congenital malformations	3	0	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	10	22
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	0	2	2
Suicide	1	1	2
	<hr/> 104	<hr/> 99	<hr/> 203

Deaths — Age Groups

Under 1 year	10
1— 2 "	1
3— 4 "	—
5— 9 "	—
10—14 "	1
15—24 "	1
25—44 "	9
45—64 "	39
65—74 "	60
Over 75 "	82
Total	<hr/> 203

Cancer

There were 32 deaths from malignant neoplasm of which 8 were due to cancer of the lung and bronchus.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1961.
Total Cases Notified and Ages.

Disease	Total No. of Cases	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over	Cases removed to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia ..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	1	2	..
Measles ..	161	1	7	11	16	20	93	10	3	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	171	1	7	11	16	20	93	13	7	..	1	2	..

TUBERCULOSIS

Four new respiratory cases and one non-respiratory death were notified during the year.

The number of cases on the register at the year end was:—

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Respiratory	..	..	23	9	32
Non-Respiratory	..	..	—	6	6
			—	—	—
			23	15	38
			—	—	—

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The rural district is under the administration of two Divisions of the County Council, namely:—

Health Division 3: Parishes of:—

Hambleton	Out Rawcliffe	Pilling
	Stalmine	

Health Division 4: Parishes of:—

Barnacre-with-Bonds	Bilsborrow	Bleasdale
Cabus	Catterall	Claughton
Forton	Garstang	Gt. Eccleston
Inskip-with-Sowerby	Kirkland	Myerscough
Nateby	Nether Wyresdale	Upper Rawcliffe-with-
	Winmarleigh	Tarnacre

Health Services

The general health services, including ante-natal, midwifery, School Clinics, health visiting, home helps, etc., are administered by the County Council and appear satisfactory.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries and Venereal Disease Treatment Centres are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board.

Hospital Accommodation.

There are no hospitals in the area. Cases are sent to Preston, Lancaster, Blackpool, etc.

The district is provided with hospital accommodation for smallpox at Bury and for Infectious diseases at Preston, Blackpool and Lancaster.

Ambulance Service.

This service is also under the control of the Lancashire County Council, with headquarters at Broughton, near Preston, and ambulance stations at Thornton, Fleetwood and Lancaster.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, S.47.

Number of applications made during the year	..	..	Nil
Number of Orders made	..	..	Nil

Laboratory Facilities.

Swabs, specimens of sputum, etc., and samples of milk, ice-cream, water, and other foods for bacteriological and biological examination are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1961

COUNCIL OFFICES,
GARSTANG.

*To the Chairman and members of the
Garstang Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report of the sanitary circumstances of your District for the year 1961.

Water Supply

The District is well supplied from the Fylde Water Board. Approximately 94.7 per cent of the dwelling houses (4,226) have an internal supply from this source which is upland surface water of excellent quality. The supply is regularly tested by the Board and the department. Thirty houses, previously supplied from private sources, were connected to the mains and eight miles, 383 yards of new main were laid by the Board in 1961.

A small scheme, estimated to cost £3,170, was approved for the Ray Lane area of Barnacre to include a number of domestic and industrial premises.

Twelve houses receive water from the Manchester Corporation, Thirlmere supply. This supply was also found to be highly satisfactory, except for a very short period after storm water had gained access to the aqueduct during reconstruction work.

The remainder of the houses (220) derive their supplies from wells and springs.

The total number of houses with an internal piped water supply from all sources is 4,431, (99.3 per cent).

Eighty six samples were obtained from private supplies, of which 63 were found to be satisfactory and 23 unsatisfactory.

Details of Water Supplies to Dwelling Houses, at 31.12.61.

PARISH	No. of Houses, etc.	FYLDE		TH.	PRIVATE SUPPLIES									
					Burdock			Oak		Cl.		Others		
		In	C.	In	In	Out	C.	In	In	In	Out	In	Out	C.
Barnacre-with-Bonds ...	392	333	—	2	15	—	2	1	—	—	3	36	3	—
Bilsborrow ...	100	97	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—
Bleasdale... ..	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	5	36	5	—
Cabus	286	286	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catterall... ..	185	184	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Claughton	129	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	9	4	—	—	—
Forton	262	269	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	—	—	—
Garstang... ..	776	776	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Eccleston...	242	242	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hambleton	259	258	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inskip-with-Sowerby ...	155	154	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Kirkland... ..	95	94	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Myerscough	192	189	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Nateby	76	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nether Wyresdale	168	127	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	30	2	—	—	—
Out Rawcliffe	175	175	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pilling	439	434	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—
Stalmine	226	226	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre	144	144	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Winmarleigh	87	84	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4,463	4,226	5	12	15	—	2	15	38	125	25	—	—	—

KEY : TH.—Thirlmere supply.
F. —Fylde supply.

OAK.—Oakenclough supply.
P. —Private supply.

CL.—Claughton supply.
C. —Carried.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The Council undertake the removal of domestic refuse in the twenty parishes.

Collection of household refuse and salvage was carried out by four side-loading vehicles, manned by twelve loaders, inclusive of drivers.

Refuse was disposed of at Scorton Gravel Workings and in farm pits situated in various parts of the district.

Every effort is made with the limited number of vehicles, men, and covering material, to dispose of the refuse with as little nuisance as possible.

Due to the residential development in the district and the continuing change in the character of domestic refuse, the council placed an order for a "S.D." 16-18 cubic yard Fore and Aft tipping vehicle. Delivery of this vehicle is expected in 1962.

The amount realised from the sale of salvage was £530.

Sewerage and Drainage.

Modern disposal works situate at Churchtown, serve Garstang and parts of the parishes of Barnacre-with-Bonds, Cabus, Catterall, Churchtown and Claughton.

In Great Eccleston all the sewers discharge, without treatment, into the tidal waters of the River Wyre.

Other treatment plants are situated in Calder Vale, and the Kenlis Arms area (Barnacre-with-Bonds), Pilling, Scorton (Nether Wyresdale), and at Forton.

Small treatment works are provided for Council estates in the various parishes. The majority of the dwelling houses where the sewers are not available are provided with septic tanks, and in those cases where pails and privies still exist every encouragement is given by the Council to owners to convert to fresh water closets with tanks.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION (AT END OF 1961)

Number of middens	51	Number of fresh water closets	4,880
Number of closets attached there— to	54	Number of trough closets ..	—
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	—	Number of waste water closets	—
Number of pail closets .. .	332	Number of moveable dustbins	5,247

CONVERSIONS DURING THE YEAR

Privies to fresh water closets ..	2	Pails to fresh water closets ..	24
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Public Conveniences.

Public conveniences are provided in Garstang, Great Eccleston, Pilling and Scorton.

Routine Inspections.

Agricultural Act, 1956	..	..	..	66
Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	4
Bakehouses	..	..	..	19
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	79
Disinfections	..	..	..	7
Drains/Sewers	..	..	..	865
Dustbins	..	..	..	14
Egg Packers	..	..	..	19
Factories	..	..	..	135
Fish Friers	..	..	..	12
Food Inspection	..	..	..	40
Food Preparation Premises	..	..	..	143
Food Shops	..	..	..	150
Hawkers	..	..	..	28

Houses:—

Applications for Council	..	..	191
Certificates of Disrepair	..	..	6
Council	..	..	201
P.H.A. and Housing Acts	..	..	314

Housing:—

Improvement Grants	..	..	168
Standard Grants	..	..	366
Infectious Diseases	..	..	27
Infestation	..	..	25
Knackers Yard	..	..	26
Markets	..	..	38
Miscellaneous	..	..	614
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	402
Petroleum Regulations	..	..	177
Piggeries	..	..	16
Poultry Pluckers	..	..	65
Public Cleansing	..	..	326
Public Conveniences	..	..	178
River Pollution	..	..	19
Sampling	..	..	260

Sanitary Accommodation:—

Conversions	..	..	29
Tanks	..	..	19
Schools	..	..	36
Shops and Offices	..	..	201
Slaughterhouses	..	..	752
Swill Boilers	..	..	26
Water Supplies	..	..	212

Total Visits 6275

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Number of slaughterhouses licensed, as at 31-12-61.	7
Number of licences issued to Slaughtermen during 1961	40

The Slaughterhouse Report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 1960 was approved by the Minister, subject to the 'Appointed Day' being amended to the 1st January, 1963.

Summary of Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

Figures in () are those for 1960

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	713 (687)	7 (1)	10 (1)	3741 (3348)	5715 (6033)
Number inspected	713 (687)	7 (1)	10 (1)	3741 (3348)	5715 (6033)
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcases condemned	1 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	9 (0)	6 (9)
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	127 (148)	2 (0)	1 (0)	56 (48)	667 (732)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	17.6 (21.5)	28.6 (0)	10 (0)	1.7 (1.4)	11.8 (13.9)
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcases condemned	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (6)
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	0 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20 (103)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0 (0.6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.4 (1.8)

Number of carcases of which some part or organ was found
to be affected with cysticercus bovis 0 (3)

A Government contribution of £45 12s. 10d. was received
towards the cost of meat inspection for 1960-61.

Food Premises.

Number of food premises, by type of business, in district at
end of year:—

General grocers and provision dealers	75
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.).	3
Fishmongers	3
Meat shops, (butchers, purveyors of cooked and processed Meats, etc.).	11

Bakers and/or confectioners	3
Fried Fish shops	4
Shops, selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	9
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars	75
Others—School meals/kitchens, etc.	15

Number of food premises, by type, registered under S.16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 or under local Acts:—

<i>Type of Business</i>	<i>No. Registered</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>
Ice Cream Manufacture and Sale ..	70	101
Fish Friers	4	12
Sausages, Potted and preserved Food—Manufacture ..	10	79

Unsound Food.

A total of 2 tons 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs. was recorded.

From Slaughterhouses:—

	T.	C.	Qrs.	lbs.
Tubercular meat	0	5	1	23
Non-Tubercular meat	2	14	0	15

Special examination of food stocks:—

Type	Quantity examined	Quantity condemned
Pre-packed foods.. ..	523 lbs.	523 lbs.
Dressed Chickens ..	8970 lbs.	8970 lbs.

All condemned meat from slaughterhouses is stained green and then either sent to the local Knacker's Yard or to a Processor. Unsound tinned foods are buried at the tip.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of distributors registered by the local authority and operating from:—

(a) Dairies in the district	2
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies	10

Regular sampling of all supplies is carried out for biological and bacteriological examination and the following show the results of the samples taken:

Raw Milk:—

	No. of Samples	No. Positive	No. Negative
Tuberculosis	18	0	18

	No. of Samples	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory	No. Void
Bacteriological: Methylene Blue	18	15	2	1

	No. of Samples	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory	No. Void
Heat Treated Milk: Phosphatase Test	1	1	0	0
Methylene Blue Test	2	0	0	2

Br. Abortus (Undulant Fever):

Two hundred and thirty eight milk samples were also submitted for Br. Abortus. As a result 15 cows were found to be affected—these were either sold for ‘beef’ or the milk pasteurised.

Tuberculosis:

It was not found necessary for the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to examine any herd as no notification of tubercular milk was recorded.

Pasteurising Plants:

One pasteurising plant is licensed by the County Council.

Ice Cream.

During the year 59 samples of Ice Cream were taken.

The following is a table showing the respective grading:—

				<i>Made Out of the District</i>	<i>Made Within the District</i>
Grade 1	..	..	..	37	17
2	..	..	..	1	3
3	..	..	..	0	1
4	..	..	..	0	0
				<hr/> 38 <hr/>	<hr/> 21 <hr/>

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955.

During the year, the Lancashire County Council obtained the following samples from within the rural district:—

64 Milk	2 Vinegar	1 Butter
1 Bacon	1 Arrowroot B.P.C.	1 Boric acid
1 Tea	1 Travel sickness tablets	1 Fresh fruit, oranges
1 Ice cream lollies	1 Brandy	1 Epsom salts B.P.
1 Sago	1 Stuffed olives	1 Chicken teacakes
1 Pickles	1 Boric acid powder	2 Barley
1 Bread	1 Headache tablets	1 Arrowroot
1 Lemon cheese	1 Ice lollies	1 Flour confectionery
2 Ice cream	1 Rum	1 Dripping
1 Whisky		1 Cod liver oil B.P.
1 White pepper		

All the above Samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following :-

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
1 Informal milk	Deficient 5 per cent fat	Farmer notified
1 Lemon cheese	No name of the food or no declaration of the net weight on the label.	Vendor interviewed and Weights & Measures Inspector informed regarding the non-declaration of net weight.

Markets.

There is one market which is held weekly in Garstang. This is under the control of the Garstang Town Trust and is regularly inspected.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

Swill Boilers.

Number of licensed plants, 1-1-61	..	..	..	..	7
Number of licences cancelled	..	..	..	..	0
Number of new plants licensed	..	..	..	..	2
Number of licensed plants, 31-12-61	..	..	..	..	9
Total number of inspections during the year	..	..	..	..	20

Offensive Trades.

There is a Knacker's Yard situate in the parish of Catterall which serves a useful purpose for a very wide area. The premises are regularly inspected and the business appears to be well conducted.

Smoke Abatement.

Two observations were taken on 8 industrial chimneys.

Alterations are proposed at one factory to replace the existing inadequate solid fuel boiler with an oil fired plant.

Caravans and Moveable Dwellings.

The following summary shows the number and type of licence issued under The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960:—

<i>No. of Licences</i>	<i>No. of Caravans Permitted</i>	
	<i>Residential</i>	<i>Holidays</i>
14	626	
24		683
28 Individual	14	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	640	697

Four site operators, aggrieved by certain conditions included in the licences, appealed to the Magistrate's Court. One case was eventually withdrawn and the remaining three remain outstanding pending possible settlement between the owners and the council.

Ten licences were also issued under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 for individual moveable dwellings.

Approximately 1,210 caravans were stationed in the district during August, of which 374 were being used permanently.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public baths within the area, although during favourable weather some bathing takes place in certain parts of the rivers Wyre and Brock.

One caravan site has its own swimming pool for the benefit of the caravanners.

Shops and Offices.

Two hundred and one inspections were carried out.

The standard of shops in the area is satisfactory, the majority of which are family concerns employing few or no assistants.

Schools.

There are twenty-two schools in the rural district.

Water is supplied by the Fylde Water Board to 19 of the schools and at Bleasdale, Calder Vale and Claughton the supplies are from private sources which are sampled regularly.

With the exception of the Bleasdale School which is, unfortunately, still served by obsolete and unhygienic privies, the remainder are provided with fresh water closets.

Insufficient accommodation exists at some of the schools although plans are in hand for alterations and the erection of certain new schools.

In a number of cases, there is no hot water to the wash hand basins and repairs are required to yard surfaces.

There are two central kitchens in the area providing mid-day meals for the scholars at several of the schools. Separate kitchens have also been provided at other schools. The standard of these is very high.

Housing.

Number of dwelling houses and flats erected during the year:

Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	123
(i) By Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(ii) By other Local Authorities	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(iii) By other bodies or persons	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	123

The Council's housing register revealed at the 31st December that there were 114 outstanding applications for houses and 59 applications for old persons' bungalows.

The Public Health Department is responsible to the House Letting Committee for all lists of applications for council houses and before the submission of these lists investigations are made into each case.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year—

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	215
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	314
(2) Number of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit	30
(3) Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	48

2. Housing Acts, 1957-61. Houses not included in Clearance Areas:—

	<i>Houses</i>	<i>No. of Persons Displaced</i>
(1) Houses demolished or closed during the year.		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure ..	8	13
(ii) Closed	11	9
(iii) Parts of buildings closed ..	—	—
(2) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers		46

3. Housing Acts, 1957-61—Overcrowding:

There were no cases of statutory overcrowding on record but a number of cases exist where the bedroom accommodation is insufficient for the needs of the family.

4. Improvement and Standard Grants.

(a) Improvement Grants.

	<i>No.</i>	<i>No. of dwelling houses affected</i>
(i) Number of schemes submitted by private individuals to local authority	11	12
(ii) Number of schemes approved ..	10	11
(iii) Number of schemes completed ..	16	16

Total amount of grants paid in connection with the aforesaid 16 schemes, £3,682 10s. 0d.

(b) Standard Grants.

	<i>No.</i>	<i>No. of dwelling houses affected</i>
(1) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	51	51
(2) Approved by local authority ..	51	51
(3) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	1	48
(4) Approved by Ministry ..	1	48
(5) Work completed—private ..	35	35
Local authority	Part	28

Total amount of grants in connection with the 35 schemes, £2,217 9s. 11d.

Summary of schemes approved by the council from October, 1955 to December 1961:—

	<i>Owner-Occupiers</i>	<i>Tenanted Houses</i>
Improvement Grants	25	66
Standard Grants	28	55

5. Rent Act, 1957.

(a) Application for Certificates of Disrepair:

(1) Number of applications received	1
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	—
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates, in respect of some but not all defects	—
In respect of all defects ..	1
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under par. 5 of the 1st Schedule	—

(b) Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

Factories.

1.—Inspection of Factories.

<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
99	145	3	0

Outworkers.

Number on register	1
Type of Work—Crochet Worker	

Defects Found in Factories.

Particulars	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:				
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	3	1	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—

Verminous Premises.

A number of infestations (ants, cockroaches, wasps, etc.) were eradicated by proprietary insecticides during the year.

Disinfection.

Disinfection was carried out by means of formalin fumigators and seven houses were treated by this method during the year.

Rodent Control.

The Council engage one whole-time rodent operative to carry out the functions under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year, 3,642 inspections were carried out and 478 infestations treated for rats and mice.

A number of manholes on the council's sewers were test-baited, with negative results.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts.

177 Inspections have been carried out of premises where petroleum spirit is stored.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Medical Officer of Health, other chief officials, and all members of my staff for their loyalty and valued assistance, and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. SMITHSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

